

SUSANNA MARION.

JUNE 7, 1898.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. MITCHELL, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany S. 2086.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2086) granting a pension to Susanna Marion, have examined the same and report:

The purpose of this bill is to place upon the pension roll the name of Susanna Marion, widow of Michael Marion, late a private in Company C, Second Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry.

It appears that Michael Marion was enrolled as a private in Company C, Second Michigan Infantry, May 19, 1861. He was discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability December 30, 1861. The medical records show him treated for typhoid fever from October 14 to November 13, 1861, and discharged from service on the latter date.

In an affidavit executed March 14, 1894, the claimant stated that the soldier died on or about August 11, 1884, of disease of the stomach and intestines, as she is advised and believes. About three years before his death, believing that her life and the lives of her children were in jeopardy, she was persuaded to apply for a divorce, which was granted December 21, 1881. Her application for widow's pension was rejected by the Pension Bureau June 3, 1896, because of the granting of the decree of divorce. In further explanation of the divorce proceedings the claimant states that her husband had become dangerously insane.

It appears that the beneficiary named in this bill is now about 70 years old, and that her little property is encumbered. It is also stated that she is the mother of fourteen children by the soldier, five of whom were born before his enlistment.

In view of all the circumstances, your committee report the bill back with the recommendation that it pass, with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the fourth line and insert: "Susanna Marion, widow of Michael Marion, late a private in Company C, Second Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and pay her a pension at the rate of twelve dollars per month."

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill granting a pension to Susanna Marion."

